

Message Text

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12
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----- 053832

R 020908Z AUG 75
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7788
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 3 TEL AVIV 5006

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, US,IS, EG
SUBJ: DETAILED COMMENTARY BY HARIF ON INTERIM SETTLEMENT
NEGOTIATIONS

REF: FBIS TA 011850

1. IN AUGUST 1 MAARIV, ISRAEL'S TOP POLITICAL
COMMENTATOR, HARIF, HAS WRITTEN ARTICLE WHICH
DEALS IN GREAT DETAIL WITH VARIOUS ELEMENTS OF
THE NEGOTIATIONS AND SEEMS TO REFLECT VIEWS AND INFORMATION
OBTAINED FROM A MEMBER OF ISRAEL'S NEGOTIATING TEAM. FBIS HAS
TRANSMITTED FULL TEXT OF ARTICLE (REF) AND EXCERPTS
FOLLOW BELOW. AMBASSADOR PLANS TO TAKE UP THIS QUESTION WHEN
HE SEES FONMIN ALLON EARLY PART OF NEXT WEEK. END CLASSIFIED

BEGIN CLASSIFIED

2. EXCERPTS FROM HARIF ARTICLE: QUOTE
A FEW DAYS AGO DEFENSE MINISTER SHIMON PERES CAME
OUT WITH A DECLARATION THAT ISRAEL'S PROPOSAL, WHICH WAS
TRANSMITTED TO CAIRO THROUGH THE U.S., "IS, APPARENTLY,
THE LAST ONE". IT DID NOT TAKE LONG FOR A MESSAGE TO
ARRIVE FROM DR. KISSINGER, WHICH SAYS SOMETHING LIKE THIS:
STOP TALKING.....YOU HAVE REACHED A CRITICAL STAGE, IN
CONFIDENTIAL

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WHICH EVERY DECLARATION IS LIABLE TO FORECLOSE OPTIONS
AND ENDANGER WHAT YOU HAVE ALREADY ACHIEVED'...
ANY TALK OF THE KIND THAT ISRAEL'S PROPOSAL IS THE
"LAST ONE" - WASHINGTON APPARENTLY EVALUATES - IS

LIABLE TO EMBARRASS EGYPT, BECAUSE CAIRO'S CONSENT MAY BE INTERPRETED AS ACCEPTING AN ISRAELI 'DICTATE'...THERE IS DEFINITELY A REASON TO SUSPECT THAT ANY MOVEMENT OR TALK OR UNCAUTIOUS REMARK ARE LIABLE TO UP SET WASHINGTON'S MOVES. IN ONE THING DR. KISSINGER IS CERTAINLY RIGHT: THE NEGOTIATIONS HAVE REACHED A CRITICAL STAGE...

3. LET IT BE CHALKED UP TO KISSINGER'S CREDIT THAT IT IS NOT ONLY FROM ISRAEL THAT HE DEMANDS SELF-RESTRAINT, BUT ALSO FROM EGYPT. FROM NOW ON WE SHALL APPARENTLY WITNESS SELF-RESTRAINT WHICH ISRAELI SPEAKERS (SPOKESMEN) HAVE IMPOSED ON THEMSELVES. IT WAS ALREADY POSSIBLE TO DISCERN IN THEIR LAST REMARKS AND EXPRESSIONS- INCLUDING THOSE OF DEFENSE MINISTER PERES THIS WEEK-THAT THEY HAVE RENOUNCED ANY EXPRESSION WHICH EXUDES A SMELL OF "ULTIMATUM", JUST SO THAT THE U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE SHOULD NOT COME WITH THE CLAIM- IF HIS MISSION SHOULD FAIL THIS TIME - THAT THE SUPERFLUOUS TALK OF THE ISRAELIS HAVE CAUSED IT...

4. WILL DR. KISSINGER SUCCEED IN BRIDGING THE ABYSS BETWEEN THE TWO "MAPS" - THAT OF ISRAEL AND THAT OF EGYPT? WE HAVE PLACED THE WORD "MAPS" BETWEEN QUOTATION MARKS, BECAUSE THIS WORD DOES NOT SUFFICIENTLY ILLUMINATE WHAT STANDS BEHIND THE EGYPTIAN PROPOSAL FOR AN INTERIM AGREEMENT IN HER REPLY, OR TO BE MORE ACCURATE, WITHOUT ANY CONNECTION WITH THE ISRAELI PROPOSAL. NO WONDER THAT WASHINGTON, TOO- WHOSE PRESSURE HAVE ALL THE TIME BEEN DIRECTED AT ISRAEL - HAS EXPRESSED HER OPINION AND SAID CLEARLY THAT THE U.S. DOES NOT REGARD THE EGYPTIAN MAP AS A BASIS FOR A SETTLEMENT...IT IS DIFFICULT TO ASSUME THAT EGYPT'S MAP IS THE LAST WORD. IT IS PRETTY CLEAR THAT THIS WAS A PROPOSAL FOR BARGAINING, MADE WITH THE CONFIDENTIAL

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CLEAR INTENTION OF SQUEEZING ADDITIONAL CONCESSIONS OUT OF ISRAEL, IN THE ASSUMPTION THAT IN THE WAR OF NERVES THAT IS NOW GOING ON THE U.S. WILL TRY TO INFLUENCE ISRAEL SOMEHOW TO SHOW A LITTLE BIT OF EXTRA FLEXIBILITY...

5. IF THE TRUTH BE TOLD, IF IT WERE ONLY A MATTER OF "JUST A FEW KMS", ISRAEL WOULD HAVE BECOME A LITTLE SOFTER, AS SHE HAS ACTUALLY DONE: FROM THE START ISRAEL REACHED AN UNDERSTANDING WITH DR. KISSINGER ABOUT THE "FINAL" MAP, WHICH HE WOULD BE AUTHORIZED TO PROPOSE TO EGYPT. THE GOVERNMENT WAS NOT TOLD ABOUT THIS MAP THIS WEEK.

IT HAS TURNED OUT THAT THE TEAM, AT ITS OWN RESPONSIBILITY, WORKED OUT "A FINAL WITHDRAWAL LINE", WHICH IS SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT FROM THE MAP WHICH WAS PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNMENT THE PREVIOUS WEEK, AND REPORTED ON IT (THE LINE) TO DR. KISSINGER - IN THE EVENT THAT THE PREVIOUS "FINAL MAP" SHOULD BE REJECTED BY EGYPT: I MEAN THE DEPTH OF THE POSITION AT THE EASTERN APPROACHES OF THE PASSES. AT THE LAST STAGE IT WAS DISCUSSED THAT ISRAEL WOULD DEMAND A POSITION OF A DEPTH OF 3-5 KMS. IN THE END, THE TEAM WAS SATISFIED WITH A DEPTH OF 1.5 KMS. AT THE GIDI AND 300 METERS AT THE MITLA...

6. OF COURSE, THE TEAM DID THAT ON THE BASIS OF A MILITARY OPINION GIVEN BY IDF G.H.Q., WHICH STATED THAT SUCH A DEPTH IS THE ABSOLUTE MINIMUM. THIS "MINIMUM", WHICH CONSTITUTES THE ABANDONING OF THE PREVIOUS DEMANDS OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE DEFENSE MINISTER, IS CONNECTED WITH WHAT IS CALLED "THE AMERICAN PRESENCE" IN THE PASSES. IS THE LINK BETWEEN THIS MINIMUM AND THE AMERICAN PRESENCE A CONDITION FOR ISRAEL'S AGREEMENT TO THE INTERIM SETTLEMENT? THERE IS NO UNEQUIVOCAL REPLY TO THAT. EVEN IN THAT MATTER THERE ARE DIFFERENCE OPINIONS, NOT ONLY IN THE TEAM, BUT ALSO IN THE CABINET, AS WILL TURN OUT TO BE THE CASE. IF WE LEAVE THE MATTER OF THE AMERICAN PRESENCE
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ALONE FOR A MOMENT, THERE IS ROOM TO STATE THAT THE NECESSITY OF THIS SYMBOLIC PRESENCE AT THE APPROACHES OF THE PASSES IS ACCEPTED BY ALMOST EVERYONE - INCLUDING THE U.S....

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 3 TEL AVIV 5006

EXDIS

"7. IF WE WOULD TO GET AN IDEA OF THE WIDTH OF THE GAP BETWEEN THE ISREALI AND THE EGYPTIAN STAND, IT IS ENOUGH TO "GLANCE" AT THE EGYPTIAN MAP. WHAT DOES IT SAY? EGYPT HAS RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE AMERICAN PRESENCE AT THE PASSES. MOREOVER, EGYPT IS PREPARED TO AGREE TO IT THAT THE ISRAELI WARNING INSTALLATION AT UM HASHIVA SHOULD REMAIN (AT AN EARLIER STAGE EGYPT DEMANDED THAT IT BE REMOVED FROM THERE, BECAUSE THE PLACE IS WITHIN THE NEW BUFFER ZONE), BUT SHE DOES NOT AGREE TO AN ISRAELI PRESENCE AT THE WARNING STATION.. AGAINST THAT, EGYPT DEMANDS THAT HER STATION - IT HAS BEEN AGREED AND ACCEPTED BY ISRAEL THAT SUCH A STATION BE SET UP IN THE BUFFER ZONE- BE OPERATED BY EGYPTIANS. (THE TRUTH IS THAT THIS POINT IN THE "EGYPTIAN MAP" IS NOT SUFFICIENTLY CLEAR)...

"8. AS TO THE STATUS OF THE AMERICANS IN THE PASSES- THE EGYPTIANS DEMAND THAT THE AMERICANS SHOULD ONLY HAVE THE STATUS OF "OPERATORS" OF THE TWO WARNING STATIONS, AND NOT SIC, AS PROPOSED BY ISRAEL. BUT WHAT EGYPT DOES NOT WANT - AS STATED IN HER MAP - IS THAT THE AMERICANS SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO MOVE FREELY ON THE ROADS...

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"9. THE ISRAELI PROPOSAL CONCERNING THE "AMERICAN PRESENCE" SPEAKS ABOUT THE STATION OF HUNDREDS OF AMERICANS AT VARIOUS SENSITIVE POINTS, LIKE FOR INSTANCE, AT THE ENTRANCE AND EXITS OF THE PASSES; IN THE ABU RODEIS REGION AND NORTH OF THE PASSES, PARALLEL TO THE UNEF, AND WITHOUT ANY CONNCECTION WITH THE UNEF, SO AS TO ENSURE SUPERIOR OBSERVANCE OF THE INTERIM AGREEMENT...

"10. EGYPT'S TERRITORIAL DEMANDS ARE STAGGERING: EGYPT DEMANDS THAT SHE BE ALLOWED TO ADVANCE UP TO THE ENTRANCE TO THE PASSES. WHEN SHE PROPOSES TO MOVE THE BUFFER ZONE UP TO 10 KMS. TO THE EAST, SHE SPEAKS EXPLICITLY ABOUT IT THAT THE THIN-OUT ZONE (WHICH ALLOWS BY VIRTUE OF THE FIRST DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT TO HOLD A LIMITED NUMBER OF TANKS AND TROOPS) SHOULD NOT STRETCH OUT, AS TODAY, FROM THE LINE OF THE CANAL, BUT SHOULD BEGIN FROM THE NEW LINE, WHERE TODAY THE BUFFER ZONE BEGINS (WHICH WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE PASSES) UP TO THE ENTRANCE TO THE PASSES IN THE WEST. AS TO THE OLD "THIN-OUT ZONE" - IT IS

ABOLISHED, AND FROM NOW ON THE EGYPTIANS SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO KEEP IN IT ANY NUMBER OF WEAPONS AND TROOPS THEY THINK FIT (IN THE COURSE OF TIME WHICH HAS GONE BY SINCE THE SIGNING OF THE DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT IN JANUARY 1974 THE EGYPTIANS HAVE MANAGED TO PREPARE ALL THAT IS NECESSARY IN THE AREA FOR THE ABSORPTION OF THE EQUIPMENT AND THE TROOPS...)...HOWEVER, AS FAR AS THE PASSES ARE CONCERNED, THE EGYPTIANS ARE NOT SATISFIED WITH THE COMPLETE EVACUATION BY THE ISRAELIS. THEY ALSO CLAIM THAT THE RIGHT TO KEEP WITHIN THE PASSES IN THE CENTER (AT THE PLACE CALLED "THE BATH") TWO COMPANIES OF EGYPTIAN TROOPS'...

"11. IN THE SOUTH THE EGYPTIANS DEMAND WHAT THEY CALL "A BROADENING OF THE APPROACH TO ABU RODEIS". THIS MEANS SIMPLY-THAT THEY WANT IN FACT TO GET THE ISRAELIS OUT OF THAT PART OF THE ROAD WHICH IS TODAY IN THE HANDS OF THE IDF, WHICH LEADS FROM THE GULF OF ZUEZ TO ABU RODEIS. THE EGYPTIANS DO NOT WANT TO BE RESTRICTED TO THE WATER (THE CONFIDENTIAL

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RED SEA), BUT WANT TO OBTAIN CONTROL OVER THE ABU RODEIS REGION, AND THEREFORE THEY DEMAND TO BE ON THE MOUNTAINS OF THE RED SEA...

"12. ISRAEL PROPOSED A PARALLEL ROAD IN THAT REGION, OR JOINT USE IN THAT PART OF THE ROAD WHICH LEADS FROM THE CITY OF SUEZ TO ABU RODEIS. THERE EXIST TOPOGRAPHICAL DIFFICULTIES IN THAT REGION, AND SINCE THE EGYPTIANS HAVE REJECTED ALL THE ALTERNATIVES PROPOSED BY ISRAEL, IT HAS BEEN AGREED BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE U. . THAT A TEAM OF ISRAELI AND U.S. EXPERTS SHOULD TRY TO WORK OUT TOGETHER A TECHNICAL SOLUTION FOR AN INDEPENDENT EGYPTIAN APPROACH ROAD TO ABU RODEIS. HOWEVER, EGYPT WANTS TO SPARE THAT TEAM THE EFFORT, AND SIMPLY PROPOSES TO ABOLISH THE ISRAELI "ROAD" IN THAT REGION - I.E. TO GET THE IDF OUT OF THAT STRATEGIC POSITION WITH ALL THE TECHNOLOGICAL ASSETS THAT ARE THERE. (ISRAEL WANTS TO STICK TO THAT REGION, BECAUSE FROM THERE IT IS POSSIBLE TO OVERLOOK PLACES VITAL FOR THE EGYPTIANS, THUS "ENCOURAGING" THEM, BY MEANS OF THAT INCENTIVE, TO REACH A PEACE AGREEMENT WITH ISRAEL IN DUE COURSE.)...

"13. THUS, THERE IS NO LONGER ANY TALK ABOUT A COMPROMISE OF "A FEW KMS". A COMPROMISE ON THIS PROPOSAL MEANS, PROVIDING THE EGYPTIANS WITH A NEW MILITARY SET-UP, ON THE STRENGTH OF WHICH CAIRO WILL NO LONGER WISH TO TALK WITH ISRAEL ABOUT A FURTHER SETTLEMENT. WITH SUCH ASSETS IT IS POSSIBLE

THAT EGYPT MAY NOT WANT TO WAIT THREE SOLID YEARS...
ONE MAY ASSUME THAT EGYPT KNEW ABOUT IT, THAT THE
LAST ISRAELI PROPOSAL, OR ALMOST FINAL PROPOSAL,
WAS WORKED OUT IN JERUSALEM ON THE BASIS OF AN
UNDERSTANDING THAT WAS REACHED BETWEEN ISRAEL AND
THE U.S., INCLUDING THE MATTER OF THE AMERICAN
PRESENCE. MOREOVER, THE U.S.. AGREED TO THE
AMERICAN PRESENCE IN THE PASSES ONLY AFTER ISRAEL
HAD IN FACT ACCEPTED THE EGYPTIAN-U.S. DEMAND FOR
AN EVACUATION OF THE PASSES, ALTHOUGH ISRAEL LEFT
FOR HERSELF A STRIP OF A POSITION ON THE EASTERN
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APPROACHES. WILL ALL THAT, EGYPT HAS COME FORWARD
WITH SUCH AN EXTREME DEMAND, THAT IT IS POSSIBLE
THAT THERE EXISTS A "PARALLEL UNDERSTANDING"
BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND CAIRO: AN "UNDERSTANDING"
WHICH WILL EVENTUALLY MAKE IT EASIER FOR KISSINGER
TO ACHIEVE A COMPROMISE THAT WILL SEEM ACCEPTABLE
TO THE EGYPTIANS?...IF THIS SHOULD BE THE TRAIN
OF THOUGHT IN JERUSALEM, IT IS ONLY BECAUSE IN THE COURSE
OF HIS ACTIVITY SINCE OCTOBER 1973- ISRAEL HAS BEEN WITNESSING
VARIOUS "SURPRISES..."

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 3 OF 3 TEL AVIV 5006

EXDIS

"14. THE DEFENSE MINISTER, FOR INSTANCE, SAID THAT
ISRAEL HAS REACHED THE "TERMINAL STATION", I.E. FROM THIS
POINT THERE EXIST APPARENTLY ONLY TWO POSSIBILITIES:
EITHER EGYPT ACCEPTS THE ISRAELI PROPOSAL THE WAY IT IS -THE
NARROWED LINE PLUS U.S. PRESENCE - OR THERE WON'T
BE AN INTERIM AGREEMENT. IT IS NOT CERTAIN THAT
THAT'S HOW IT'S GOING TO BE., PERHAPS BECAUSE NOT

EVERYONE MAKES THE SETTLEMENT CONTINGENT UPON THE "AMERICAN PRESENCE". IT IS INTERESTING THAT MINSTER ISRAEL GALILI, FOR INSTANCE, IS NOT ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE IDEA OF THE AMERICAN PRESENCE..IS LIKELY TO SERVE AS A KIND OF MODEL FOR OTHER SETTLEMENTS. THE DEFENSE MINSTER HAS ALREADY SAID THIS WEEK THAT HE WOULD NOT RULE OUT THE IDEA OF U.S. PRESENCE IN CONNECTION WITH THE GOLAND HEIGHTS...

"15. THOSE WHO REGARD IT AS UNDESIRABLE PRECEDENT CLAIM THAT ONE OUGHT TO BEAR IN MIND THAT THE AMERICANS GAVE THEIR "PRESENCE" ONLY FOR THE PRICE OF A MASSIVE ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL IN SINAI. IT IS INCONCEIVABLE THAT THEY WILL AGREE TO PROVIDE THEIR "PRESENCE" WITHOUT A SUBSTANTIAL WITHDRAWAL ON THE GOLAN. AND, WHAT IS EVEN WORSE, THE AMERICANS COULD RECOMMEND, WHEN THE TIME COMES, THIS MODEL AS A SOLUTION IN JUDEA AND SAMARIA...
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"16. WITH ALL THE GREAT PRIZES WHICH THE NEGOTIATING TEAM HAS ACHIEVED, IT SEEMS THAT NOT A FEW MISTAKES HAVE BEEN MADE BY IT IN THE COURSE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. IN DEED, IF THE EGYPTIANS BECOME STUBBORN ON THE MATTER OF THE AMERICAN PRESENCE, AND THEY DON'T WANT IT - CERTAINLY NOT AT THE SCOPE PROPOSED BY ISRAEL - WILL IT BE EASY TO EXPLAIN TO U.S. PUBLIC OPINION THAT ISRAEL REFUSES TO REACH A SETTLEMENT, EXCEPT ON CONDITION OF A CERTAIN NUMBER OF AMERICAN CIVILIANS WHO SHOULD BE PRESENT IN THE SINAI PASSES? BUT ISRAEL HAS ARGUED EXPLICITLY THAT SHE DOES NOT NEED THEM THERE FOR DEFENSE, ONLY IN THE HOPE THAT IT WOULD BE MORE DIFFICULT TO CHUCK THE AMERICANS OUT THAN THE UNEF. AND SHOULD EGYPT INDEED ASK THE AMERICANS KINDLY TO GET OUT, THEN ISRAEL COULD ACT "FREELY" AND CHOOSE THE OPTION SHE DEEMS FIT, WHILCE WASHINGTON WILL NOT BE ABLE TO GET MAD AT ISRAEL.EVEN THAT, IT SEEMS, CANNOT BE REGARDED AS A WEIGHTY CONSIDERATION; FOR IN THINGS REACH THAT STAGE, THE AMERICANS WILL ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH DIFFERENT CONSIDERATIONS, NOT NECESSARILY ON THE BASIS OF A "MORAL OBLIGATION" TOWARDS ISRAEL, QUASI, BECAUSE "ISRAEL HAD BEEN ALRIGHT". THE THING THAT WILL BE OF DECISIVE IMPORTANCE FOR THE U.S. WILL BE, WHAT U.S. INTERESTS DICTATE AT THAT TIME, AND THERE IS EVIDENCE TO THAT EFFECT FROM THE EXPERIENCE OF CO-EXISTENCE...

"17. IT IS DIFFICULT TO GET PARTICULARLY ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT A SETTLEMENT WITH EGYPT AFTER JEDDA AND KAMPALA, AND THE METAPHOR OF THE DAGGER-IN-THE-HEART-OF-THE-NATION USED BY SADAT. DOES ANYONE REALLY BELIEVE THAT EGYPT WILL BE ABLE TO SIT QUIETLY ALL THE TIME, DESPITE HER COMMITMENTS, IF THE SYRIAN FRONT

DOES NOT STAY QUIET? (BY THE WAY, PRESIDENT FORD
SENT THESE DAYS A MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT ASAD AND,
ACCORDING TO ARAB SOURCES, HE WANTED TO CALM HIM
DOWN , SO THAT HE SHOULD NOT SABOTAGE THE PROCESS OF
NEGOTIATIONS WITH EGYPT. IT MAY BE UNDERSTOOD THAT HE HINTED
TO SYRIA'S PRESIDENT THAT THE TURN OF DAMASCUS FOR NEGOTIATIONS
FOR A SETTLEMENT WILL COME, TOO. DOES ANYONE REALLY BELIEVE
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THAT SYRIA INTENDS TO REACH AN OVERALL SETTLEMENT WITH ISRAEL?...

"18. DOES THAT MEAN THAT ISRAEL IS TO ABSTAIN FROM
REACHING AN INTERIM SETTLEMENT ONLY BECAUSE OF THE
SUSPICION THAT EGYPT MAY NOT STAND BY HER COMMITMENTS?
NOT NECESSARILY. FOR THEN THERE WOULD BE NO ROOM FOR ANY
SETTLEMENT, FOR THERE WILL NEVER BY AN IRONCLAD
GUARANTEE THAT EGYPT WILL INDEED STAND BY HER COMMITMENTS.
THIS IS NOT THE QUESTION. THE QUESTION LIES IN WHAT
THE PRIME MINISTER RECENTLY SAID: "THE EGYPTIANS ARE
LAGGING BEHIND IN THEIR MILITARY PREPARATIONS... IN
ANY CASE WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THEY WILL GO TO WAR WITHIN THE
NEXT YEAR". THUS, WE MAY CONCLUDE THAT A PERIOD OF
"TRANQUILLITY" IS NEEDED BY EGYPT, TOO, IN ORDER TO OVERCOME
THE BACKWARDNESS IN THEIR MILITARY PREPARATIONS AND TO
REACH A SITUATION IN WHICH SHE WILL BE ABLE TO DEMAND
FROM ISRAEL ANOTHER WITHDRAWAL WITHOUT PEACE, OR ELSE.
IF THIS IS SO, WHY SHOULD ISRAEL ABANDON HER ASSETS
IN SINAI? IS IT OUT OF FEAR THAT OTHERWISE EGYPT WILL NOT
AGREE TO REACH AN INTERIM SETTLEMENT? EVEN EGYPT KNOWS THAT
IN WAR SHE WILL NOT GET THE PASSES AND ABU RODEIS. SHE CAN
GET THEM- AS SHE WAS PROMISED-ONLY THROUGH AN INTERIM SETTLEMENT.
BUT IF THIS IS SO, THEN WHY DOES THE NEGOTIATING TEAM
HAVE TO LET BITS AND PIECES BE NIBBLED AWAY FROM IT, EVERY WEEK,
WITHOUT IT BEING CLEAR WHEN THERE WILL BE AN END TO THE
"FINAL PROPOSALS"?
UNQUOTE

END UNCLASSIFIED...
TOON

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